FINAL DECISION DOCUMENTATION

and

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

for

Willy's Elk Project: Density Management

Environmental Assessment Number OR-086-98-05
26 September 2001
USDI - Bureau of Land Management
Oregon State Office
Salem District
Tillamook Resource Area
Yamhill County, Oregon

Introduction

The BLM (Bureau of Land Management) has conducted an environmental analysis (Environmental Assessment Number OR-086-98-05) for a proposal to conduct density management on approximately 66 acres and Coarse Woody Debris enhancement on approximately 31 acres of 76 to 90 year old relatively dense, pure, and uniform Douglas-fir stands within the Willamina Creek watershed in Yamhill County. This decision document and Finding of No Significant Impact authorizes the implementation of the **density management action only**. This density management action occurs within Township 3 South, Range 6 West Sections 31 and 32 and Township 4 South, Range 6 West Sections 5 and 6, Willamette Meridian.

Since the release of the EA in November 1998, it became necessary to review the analysis due to the January 2001 issuance of the *Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines*; the March, 1999 listing of the upper Willamette Steelhead Trout and Chinook Salmon; the March, 2000 designation of the upper Willamette ESU as critical habitat for the upper Willamette steelhead trout and upper Willamette chinook salmon; issuance of Instruction Memorandum No. 2001-158 requiring BLM to conduct an Essential Fish Habitat assessment compliant with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act; and completion of the survey protocol for unsurveyed suitable marbled murrelet habitat located within 1/4 mile of the project area. The results of this review can be found in the SIR (Supplemental Information Report) for the Willy's Elk Density Management and Coarse Woody Debris Enhancement Project dated July 2001 (Project Record Document 67). The findings of the SIR do not substantially alter the analysis or determination of effects disclosed in the November 1998 EA.

A copy of the EA and SIR can be obtained from the Tillamook Field Office, 4610 Third Street, Tillamook, Oregon 97141. Office Hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 4:00 pm, closed on

holidays, or by visiting our Internet site at http://www.or.blm.gov/salem/html/planning/index.htm.

The decision to be made by the Tillamook Field Manager is whether or not to prepare an environmental impact statement, and whether to approve the density management project as proposed, not at all, or to some other extent.

DECISION

Based on site-specific analysis, the supporting project record, management recommendations contained in the WA (*Deer Creek, Panther Creek, Willamina Creek, and South Yamhill Watershed Analysis*), dated May 1998; LSRA (*Late Successional Reserve Assessment for Oregon's Northern Coast Range Adaptive Management Area*), dated January, 1998; and AMA Guide (*Northern Coast Range Adaptive Management Area Guide*), dated January 1997, as well as the management actions and direction contained in the ROD/RMP (*Salem District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan*), dated May 1995. I have decided to implement the density management action described in Alternative 1, hereafter referred to as the "selected alternative", with two clarifications ¹ and three minor modifications². The clarifications and modifications are minor and do not change the scope of the project analyzed in EA number OR-086-98-05, nor do these clarifications and modifications affect the adequacy of the analysis contained in the EA.

Clarifications:

- 1. Two typographical errors were found in the text of the EA. The first error is located on page 15, and duplicated on Appendix 3-10. The error identifies the acreage of 76 year old timber as 65 for the spotted owl and 61 for the marbled murrelet. It should be noted that there are a total of 61 acres of 76 year old timber which will be treated. The second typographical error is located in EA chapter 3.7, page 40. The EA incorrectly identifies the "Deer Creek, Panther Creek, Willamina Creek and South Yamhill Watershed Analysis" as a watershed Assessment.
- 2. It is specified in the EA section 2.2.1.4 number 6 that "Where the Motorcycle trail passes through the treatment areas debris will be cleared from an area no less than 50

¹Clarifications correct typographical errors and clarify the intent of one design feature.

²The modifications are the result of efforts to reduce impacts to listed fish species; incorporate new guidance for S&M species specified in the January 2001 ROD; and to reflect the outcome of marbled murrelet surveys, which had not been completed prior to completion of the EA pending the results of discussions with the USFWS concerning buffer requirements. Rational for the modifications can be found in the Supplemental Information Report for the Willy's Elk Density Management and Coarse Woody Debris Enhancement Project (Project Record Document 67).

inches (25 inches each side of a center line of the trail) to ensure adequate space for the passage of Motorcycles." It should be noted that this trail would be closed from use during harvest activity and that the required clearing, as specified, would occur following completion of the harvest activity. Only after harvest is completed and the trail is cleared would it be reopened for recreational use.

Modifications:

- 1. The log haul route initially specified for the project included hauling on Willamina Creek Road. Subsequent to completion of the EA it was determined that impacts to fish would be reduced by routing log traffic directly to the paved Bald Mountain Road.
- 2. Subsequent to completion of the EA, all potentially suitable marbled murrelet habitat was surveyed within 1/4 mile of the project area and along the haul route to the paved Bald Mountain Road. No murrelets were found (Project Record Document 65), therefore the ESA (Endangered Species Act) call was changed to "No Effect" for disturbance and the originally specified seasonal restrictions to exclude operations during the murrelet critical nesting period were eliminated. The only wildlife related seasonal restrictions to be implemented will be those related to the northern spotted owl critical nesting period; no felling or yarding between the dates of March 1 through July 7 both days inclusive.
- 3. Provide protection for the category B and C S&M (Survey and Manage) fungi and lichen. Protection will be effected by creating a buffer around the fungi site and falling trees away from the lichen.

Design features for the selected alternative are specified below and can be found (except where above specified modifications occur) on pages 9-14 of the Willy's Elk Project EA. Additional information can be found in the Supplemental Information Report: Willy's Elk Density Management and Coarse Woody Debris Enhancement Project (Project Record Document 67).

Density Management Areas 31-1 and 31-2

- a. Reduce the stand density in a variable-spaced manner by removing approximately 36% of the basal area and 44% of the trees. This treatment will emphasize retaining the largest trees in the stand as well as those individuals having 30% or more live crown ratio.
- b. Larger trees will be selected for wider spacing to promote the development of habitat for the marbled murrelet. Existing snags will be protected with a buffer

- of reserve trees.
- c. The treatment will be accomplished using a combination of ground based and cable harvesting methods.

Density Management Area 5-1

- a. Reduce the stand density in a variable-spaced manner by removing 46% of the basal area and 56% of the trees. This treatment will emphasize retaining the largest trees in the stand as well as those individuals having 30% or more live crown ratio.
- b. Larger trees will be selected for wider spacing to promote the development of habitat for the marbled murrelet. Existing snags will be protected with a buffer of reserve trees.
- c. The treatment will be accomplished using a combination of ground based and cable harvesting methods.

Density Management Area 32-1

- a. Reduce the stand density in a variable-spaced manner by removing 31% of the basal area and 38% of the trees. This treatment will emphasize retaining the larger trees in the stand as well as those individuals having 30% or more live crown ratio.
- b. Wider spacing will be implemented around selected larger trees to promote the development of marbled murrelet habitat.
- c. Clumps of existing understory conifer regeneration will be used as opportunities for wider spacing, to release the regeneration.
- d. The treatment will be accomplished using ground based harvesting methods.

Features Common to all Willy's Elk Density Management areas

- 1. Ground-based yarding areas (slopes less than 35%):
 - a. Skid roads and ground-based yarding equipment will be prohibited within Riparian Reserves.
 - b. Utilize existing skid roads to the greatest extent possible. It is expected that 70% of the expected 10,600 feet of skid road will be on existing skid roads. Skid roads will be designated by the purchaser and approved by BLM prior to felling any timber.
 - c. New skid roads will generally be spaced a minimum of 150 feet apart and the width will be limited to 14 feet or less, measured between the trunks of the

- reserved trees.
- d. Where tractor skid roads are constructed, 50% of the largest reserved Douglas-fir trees ≥16 inches DBH (diameter at breast height) that are cut for that construction will be left on-site to augment current down wood levels.
- e. Log lengths will be limited to 40 feet plus trim to reduce damage to the reserved trees during yarding operations.
- f. Restrict ground-based yarding to periods of low soil moisture (generally from July 1 through October 31).
- 2. Cable yarding areas (generally slopes exceeding 35%)
 - a. Utilize existing skyline corridors to the greatest extent possible.
 - b. Skyline corridors will generally be spaced no closer than 150 feet apart at one end and limit the width of each skyline corridor to a maximum of 12 feet measured between trunks of reserved trees.
 - c. All yarding will be done with a carriage equipped skyline system capable of yarding 1,300 feet slope distance from the landings and laterally yarding at least 75 feet from the skyline corridors.
 - d. To take advantage of the more open stand conditions created where cable yarding corridors converge near landings, the area within a 100-foot radius downhill of the landings will be planted with shade-tolerant conifer seedlings.
 - e. To supplement current CWD levels, in areas where cable corridors are ≤ 500 feet slope distance, two of the largest reserve trees cut to create the corridors will be left on site.
 - f. To supplement current CWD levels, where yarding corridors are > 500 feet in length (slope distance), six of the largest reserve trees cut to create the corridors will be left on site in a well-distributed pattern along the length of the corridors.
 - g. Approximately 10 cable landings will be required. Approximately 6 landings will be located on existing roads, approximately 2 will be located on the new road to be constructed (see number 5 below).
 - h. The number of landings and their size will be kept to a minimum required to reasonably harvest the units. Landings will be located by the Purchaser and approved by the BLM. Generally new landings will be constructed 150-200 feet apart. If the quantity of slash at the landings is sufficient, it will be made available for public firewood removal permits following the expiration or relinquishment of the purchasers right to the material. Landing debris could also be burned if it is determined by the BLM to be a fire hazard. Burning will be conducted in accordance with the Oregon State Implementation Plan and the Oregon Smoke Management Plan.

- 3. No timber harvest activities or new road construction will occur within Riparian Reserves.
- 4. Retain and protect to the greatest extent possible green trees with characteristics desirable to wildlife (broken or forked tops, hollow cavities, large limbs), hardwoods (to protect the current diversity of the treated stands), all existing snags with the exception of those necessary to cut for reasons of safety, and all existing down wood.
- 5. Construction of 1000 feet of new natural surfaced road will be required to access the landing areas in unit 31-1. Road clearing limits will typically be 30 feet or less measured between tree trunks, except where increased clearing width is needed for driver safety and/or landing locations. Road construction will be restricted to periods of low soil moisture (generally from July 1 through October 31). Additionally, all road construction and maintenance will be conducted in accordance with Best Management Practices (RMP Appendix C- 2 Appendix C-6). When constructing timber haul roads, any trees ≥20 inches DBH that need to be cut to provide such access will be retained on-site.
- 6. Where the Motorcycle trail passes through the treatment areas debris will be cleared from an area no less than 50 inches (25 inches each side of a center line of the trail) to ensure adequate space for the passage of Motorcycles. Trails will be closed during harvest operations.
- 7. Road decommissioning and landing and skid road obliteration:
 - a. Following harvest, all of the skid roads used to accomplish the action will be obliterated by decompacting the trail surface (subsoiling), water barring and if needed, blocked to prevent vehicular traffic.
 - b. The 1000 feet of newly constructed natural surface spur road will be obliterated by decompacting the road surface (subsoiling), water barred and blocked to prevent highway vehicle traffic.
 - c. Newly constructed landings will be obliterated by decompacting the landing surface (subsoiling).
 - d. Following subsoiling, the newly subsoiled areas will be seeded with native woody shrub species. This seeding will be conducted by Field Office personnel.
 - e. Cuts, fills and other disturbed areas associated with new road and landing construction will be seeded with a native grass seed mix by the purchaser.

- 8. All activities which generate noise above the ambient noise level (felling and yarding) will be prohibited between March 1 and July 7. This time period coincides with the critical nesting period for the northern spotted owl. In addition, this restriction will serve to limit damage to the residual stand as logging activities will not be occurring during the period of maximum bark slippage.
- 9. Coarse woody debris strategy # 2 (LSRA pg. 97) will be used as a guideline for the density management treatments. Strategy implementation is described in the EA, Appendix 2-14 to 2-16 and Appendix 3-2.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The alternatives considered in detail included an "action" alternative and a "no action" alternative. No major issues were identified during scoping, therefore, procedurally, no alternatives other than the "action" and "no action" alternatives were required. Complete descriptions of the "action" and "no action" alternatives are contained in the EA, on pages 9-14.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Considering public comment, the content of the EA and supporting project record, the management recommendations contained in the WA, LSRA, AMA Guide and the management direction contained in the ROD/RMP and Survey and Manage ROD, I have decided to implement the selected alternative as described above. My rationale for this decision follows:

- 1. The selected alternative addresses the purpose and need for action and fulfils the project objectives, as stated on pages 4 and 5 of the EA. This alternative will help accelerate the development of some late-successional forest characteristics, as well as preserving the desirable features currently existing (EA Chapter 3; Appendix 2) The project will also help provide social and economic benefits to local communities, which is also an objective for AMR (Adaptive Management Reserve) lands (EA Chapter 1). The "no action" alternative was not selected because it does not meet the purpose and need, nor does it fulfil any of the projects objectives. Implementing the "no action" alternative will not help accelerate the development of some late-successional forest characteristics (EA Appendix 2), nor will it contribute economic benefits to local communities.
- 2. The selected alternative is consistent with applicable land use plans, policies, and programs (EA, pp. 38-40).

- 3. The selected alternative has design features to minimize negative impacts and benefit the overall condition in the watershed. Newly compacted areas as well as residual compaction from past management actions will be subsoiled upon completion of the project (EA pp 13, 20-24). The result of subsoiling these areas will be a net decrease of compacted area in the watershed, maintenance of existing conditions, movement toward proper functioning condition, and attainment of ACS Objectives (EA pp 13, 20-24, Appendix 6, 7).
- 4. Implementation of the action will enhance habitat for the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet by increasing the numbers of large diameter, large limbed trees, speeding up the development of multi-level canopy structure (EA pp. 19 and 32) and CWD (EA pp. 19 and 32).
- 5. Protective measures will be implemented for two S&M species that were found within timber harvest units. The fungi species *Gomphus clavatus* will be protected with a 50 foot buffer. *Plastimatia lacunose* will be protected by protecting the host tree from damage during harvesting operations.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Scoping consisted of listing the proposed project in the March, June, and September 1998 editions of the quarterly *Salem District Project Update* which was mailed to over 1,000 addresses; and a letter mailed on June 15, 1998 to 118 potentially affected and/or interested individuals, groups, and agencies (Project Record, Document 10). A total of 3 letters were received as a result of this scoping (Project Record, Documents 12, 13, 14). All public input was assigned a number and filed in the Project Record. The IDT reviewed, clarified, and addressed the public comments. The disposition of those comments are contained in EA Appendix 1.

On November 25, 1998, a preliminary decision letter, along with a copy of the EA (Environmental Assessment Number OR-086-98-05), was mailed to 5 interested individuals, groups, and agencies that requested to be placed on the mailing list (Project Record documents 41, 42, 43). Additionally, legal notices for public comment appeared in the *Headlight Herald* on December 2, 1998 (Project Record documents 35 and 39) and the *News-Register* on December 3, 1998 (Project Record documents 35 and 40), newspapers respectively of Tillamook and McMinnville, Oregon.

An additional copy of the EA was sent to the ALA (American Lands Alliance) on January 20, 1999 (Project Record document 46).

As a result of the notice for public comment, two letters were received and were considered by the Tillamook Field Manager in reaching an informed decision (Project Record documents 38 and 48). The Bureau's response to the public comments received for the completed EA are contained in Addendum 1.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon review of the EA and supporting project record, I have determined that this action is not a major federal action and will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area. No environmental effects meet the definition of significance in context or intensity as defined in 40 CFR 1508.27. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not needed. This finding is based on the following discussion:

Context. The selected alternative is a site-specific action directly involving approximately 66 acres of BLM-administered lands which, by themselves, do not have international, national, region wide, or state wide importance. The project area falls within designated critical habitat of the upper Willamette steelhead and upper Willamette chinook salmon, both of which are listed as federally threatened under the ESA (Endangered Species Act). The project also falls within designated critical habitat for both the northern spotted owl and the marbled murrelet. The discussion of the significance criteria that follows applies to the intended action and is within the context of local importance. Chapter 3 of the EA details the effects of the selected alternative. None of the effects identified, including direct, indirect and cumulative effects, are considered to be significant and do not exceed the effects described in the Salem District Resource Management Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement, dated September, 1994.

Intensity. The following discussion is organized around the Ten Significance Criteria described in 40 CFR 1508.27.

1. **Impacts may be both beneficial and adverse.** Due to the selected alternative's design features, the predicted effects, most noteworthy, include: 1/ acceleration of the development of some late-successional forest structural features on approximately 66 acres, including large trees, gaps in the canopy, snags and down wood, various levels of overstory tree densities, and various levels of understory development; 2/ enhancement of the overall level of diversity in the area; 3/ social and economic benefits to the local communities through the supply of 1,234 thousand board feet (final cruise volume) of timber to local mills; 4/ restoration and maintenance of the ACS (Aquatic Conservation Strategy) objectives; 5/ soil disturbance and compaction would result in an approximate 50% decrease in soil productivity on about 5 acres; 6/ the activities are expected to maintain the condition of the water quality indicators, with the

exception of road density which will be restored toward proper functioning condition; and 7/ no loss in population viability of special status or special attention species (also see significance criteria #9 below).

None of the environmental effects disclosed above and discussed in detail in Chapter 3 of the EA and associated appendices are considered significant, nor do the effects exceed those described in the RMP/FEIS (Salem District Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement).

- 2. The degree to which the selected alternative will affect public health or safety. Public health and safety were not identified as an issue. The selected alternative is comparable to other density management projects which have occurred within the Salem District with no unusual health or safety concerns.
- 3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farm lands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas. There are no historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farm lands, wild and scenic rivers, wetlands or wildernesses located within the project area (EA Appendix 4). Density Management will take place within the northern coast range AMR land use allocation. The project area lies within the ESU for the Upper Willamette steelhead trout and Upper Willamette chinook salmon. The project lies within designated critical habitat for the marbled murrelet and the spotted owl. Although the selected alternative "may affect" designated critical habitat of these four species it will not result in adverse modification of critical nesting habitat. (also see significance criteria #9 below).
- 4. The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial. Public scoping included two 30 days public comment periods, one in June, 1998 and on in November, 1998. During these scoping periods, a total of 5 comment letters were received from 4 interested individuals or groups (Project Record Documents 12, 13, 14, 38, 48). The Bureau's response to these letters are contained in Appendix 1 and Addendum 1 to the EA. No evidence was provided that the environmental effects were wrongly predicted. A complete disclosure of the expected effects of the selected alternative is contained in the EA chapter 3, pp 14-38.
- 5. The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks. The selected alternative is not unique or unusual. The BLM has experience implementing similar actions in similar areas and have found the effects to be reasonably predictable. The environmental effects to the human environment are analyzed in the EA, pp 14-38. There are no predicted effects on the human environment which are considered to be highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.

- 6. The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration. The selected alternative does not set a precedent for future actions that may have significant effects nor does it represent a decision in principle about future consideration. The selected alternative will improve wildlife habitat on BLM lands, and moves the watershed toward a restored hydrologic cycle. Any future projects will be evaluated through the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) process and will stand on their own as to environmental effects.
- 7. Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts. The interdisciplinary team evaluated the selected alternative in context of past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions. Significant cumulative effects are not predicted. A complete disclosure of the effects of the selected alternative is contained in the EA, pp 14-38.
- 8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or other objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources. The selected alternative will not adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or other objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, nor will the selected alternative cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources (EA, Appendix 4).
- 9. The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Regarding ESA Section 7 consultation with the NMFS (National Marine Fisheries Service), a Biological Assessment for the proposed density management project, as modified, was prepared and submitted to NMFS with a request for informal consultation in accordance with the Streamlined Consultation process (Project Record Document 59). It was determined that the project was "may affect, not likely to adversely affect Upper Willamette steelhead trout, and designated critical habitat for Upper Willamette steelhead and Upper Willamette chinook salmon" (Project Record Document 59). A letter of concurrence was received by BLM on April 17, 2001 (Project Record Document 63). Also in the April 17, 2001 letter was concurrence that the project was not likely to adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat for coho salmon or chinook salmon found in the watershed.

ESA Section 7 consultation with USFWS (United States Fish and Wildlife Service) has been completed (USFWS Biological Opinion 1-7-00-F-649, dated October 4, 2000). The design features of the selected alternative are consistent with the Terms and Conditions of USFWS' Biological Opinion. The selected alternative has been determined *May Affect but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect* the northern spotted owl due to the generation of noise above

ambient levels within 1/4 mile of unsurveyed habitat during the non-critical nesting period, as well as impacts to dispersal habitat (EA pp. 25-27, Appendix 3). The project is *No Effect* on the marbled murrelet from the generation of noise based on the fact that all suitable habitat within 1/4 mile of the project area has been surveyed and determined to be unoccupied (Project Record Document 65). The project *May Affect* designated critical habitat for the marbled murrelet and northern spotted owl but would not result in adverse modification of critical habitat (EA pp 26 - 27, Appendix 3). The selected alternative will have *No Effect* on the bald eagle and will not negatively impact (result in a trend toward federal listing or loss of population viability) any wildlife, Special Status, or Species of Concern (EA pp. 27- 33, Appendix 3).

See Chapter 3 of the EA and the Supplemental Information Report for this project (Project Record Document 67) for the details of the ESA effect findings for the marbled murrelet and northern spotted owl.

10. Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements **imposed for the protection of the environment.** The selected alternative does not violate any law. The EA and supporting project record includes discussion of the Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, Coastal Zone Management Act and Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice). State, Tribal, and local interests were given the opportunity to participate in the environmental analysis process (EA, pp. 6, Chapter 5, Appendix 1). Additionally, the selected alternative is consistent with management direction in the RMP; Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl and Standards and Guidelines for Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl; Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines; AMA Guide; LSRA; Recovery Plan for the Marbled Murrelet; and WA (EA, Chapter 3.7).

PROTEST PROVISIONS

In accordance with Forest Management Regulations at 43 CFR 5003.2, the decision for this density management project will not become effective or be open to formal protest until the Notice of Sale is published "in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the lands affected by the decision are located." For this project, the Notice of Sale is anticipated to be published the first week of October 2001 in the *News-Register* and *Headlight Herald*, newspapers respectively of McMinnville and Tillamook, Oregon. The density management project will be implemented as a timber sale and is expected to be offered for sale on October 30, 2001.

FONSI EA No. OR-086-98-05

To protest a forest management decision, a person must submit a written protest to Dana R. Shuford, Tillamook Field Manager, 4610 Third Street, Tillamook, OR 97141-0161 by the close of business (4:00 pm) not more than 15 days after the publication of the Notice of Sale. The protest must clearly and concisely state the reasons why the decision is believed to be in error.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

If no protest is received within 15 days after publication of the Notice of Sale, this decision will become final and may be implemented immediately. If a timely protest is received, this decision will be reconsidered in light of the statements of reasons for the protest and other pertinent information available and a final decision will be issued in accordance with 43 CFR 5003.3.

CONTACT PERSON

For additional information concerning this decision or the BLM appeal process contact David Roché, Tillamook Field Office, 4610 Third Street, Tillamook, Oregon 97141; Telephone (503) 815-1100.

Approved by:

Dana R. Shuford

Tillamook Field Manager